



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Yasuki Motozawa; Takahiro Kamei; Yasushi Kawamura
Assignee: Honda Giken Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha
Title: Vehicle Occupant Protection Apparatus
Application No.: 10/600,376 Filing Date: June 20, 2003
Examiner: Unknown Group Art Unit: Unknown
Docket No.: AB-1174-1D US

Irvine, California
December 30, 2003

Mail Stop DD
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56**

Sir:

It is requested that the information identified in this statement be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

Enclosed with this statement are the following:

- ☒ Form PTO-1449 (*Substitute*). The Examiner is requested to initial the form and return it to the undersigned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.
- ☒ A copy of each cited document as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (*except where otherwise indicated for a specific citation*).

Complete copies are not submitted of U.S. applications per 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(iii), and copies are not submitted of documents already cited or submitted in a parent application from which benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 is claimed per 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d). If any of the cited/submitted documents is in a foreign language, a concise explanation of relevancy is provided pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3). For foreign language documents cited in a search report by a foreign patent office, the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance is satisfied by the submission herewith of an English language version of the search report. 57 F.R. 2021 (1/17/92). If a written

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English-language translation of a non-English language document, or portion thereof, is within the possession, custody or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in §1.56(c), a copy of the translation accompanies this statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.98(c).

This statement should be considered because:

☒ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because:

- (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date;
-- OR --
- (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage;
-- OR --
- (3) It is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action *on the merits*,
-- OR --
- (4) It is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action *after the filing of an RCE*

whichever occurs last.

☐ Although it may not qualify under subsection (b), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (c) because:

- (1) It is being filed before the mailing date of a FINAL Office Action and before a Notice of Allowance or another action closing prosecution (whichever occurs first)

-- AND (check at least one of the following) --


- ☐ (1) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p)
-- OR --
- ☐ (2) It is accompanied by a CERTIFICATION as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

☐ Although it may not qualify under subsection (b) or (c), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (d) because:

- (1) It is accompanied by a CERTIFICATION as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e);
-- AND --
- (2) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT TO ACCEPT INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d);
-- AND --
- (3) It is accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p);
-- AND --
- (4) The Issue Fee has not been paid prior to the submission.

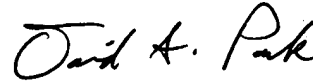
- ☒ **Fee Authorization.** Applicants deem that no fees are required at this time. However, should it be determined that a fee is required, please charge underpayment of any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-2257. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop DD, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 30, 2003.


Adriane Giberson

12/30/03
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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Reg. No. 52,094



U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office	Atty Docket No.	Serial No.
	AB-1174-1D US	10/600,376
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Applicant(s)	
(Use several sheets if necessary)	Yasuki Motozawa; Takahiro Kamei; Yasushi Kawamura	
	Filing Date	Group
	June 20, 2003	Unknown

U.S. Patent Documents

*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	3,022,976	02/27/1962	Yee C. Zia	248	430	
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						

Foreign Patent Documents

							Translation	
		Document	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No
	AN	DE 42 33 155 A1	04/14/1994	Germany			X	
	AO	GB 2 340 802 A	03/01/2000	United Kingdom				
	AP							
	AQ							

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AR	
	AS	

Examiner

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.